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Viewing cable 10CARACAS21, Vice Foreign Minister Expresses Interest in "Normalizing" Bilateral Contacts

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Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#10CARACAS21**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
10CARACAS21	2010-01-08 22:02	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL//NOFORN	Embassy Caracas

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.semana.com/nacion/wikileaks-venezuela/158284-3.aspx>

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VZCZCXRO3883
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RUEHROV RUEHRS RUEHSL RUEHSR RUEHTM
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 CARACAS 000021

NOFORN

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2035/01/08

TAGS: [PREL](#) [ENRG](#) [VE](#)

SUBJECT: Vice Foreign Minister Expresses Interest in "Normalizing" Bilateral Contacts

REF: 09 CARACAS 1597

CLASSIFIED BY: Robin D. Meyer, Political Counselor, State, POL; REASON: 1.4(B), (D)

[1](#). (C) Summary. On January 8, six months after his return to post, Ambassador Duddy had his first meeting with a senior Venezuelan government Vice Minister Agrees to Breakfast Meeting

[2](#). (C) Francisco Arias Cardenas, Vice Minister for Latin America and the Caribbean, accompanied by his assistant Pui Leong, had a frank but cc Ambassador Assesses Status of the Bilateral Relationship

[3](#). (C) The Ambassador noted that the return of an ambassador to a country from which he had been expelled was unprecedented and, for that reas

[4](#). (C) The Ambassador noted that several diplomatic notes proposing meetings in areas of mutual interest, including energy cooperation, had gc

[5](#). (C) The Ambassador stressed his interest in dialogue, even when it might involve strong disagreements, rather than "diplomacy via press stes Arias Sees Bilateral Cooperation as Difficult, but Worth Trying

[6](#). (C)) Arias expressed his interest in "normalizing" bilateral contacts. He said President Chavez was interested in good relations with all

[7](#). (C) Arias also promised to discuss our concerns about delays in processing U.S. visa requests with the newly-appointed protocol director. 7 GBRV Resuscitates the Issue of the Accidental Overflight

[8](#). (C) The Ambassador expressed surprise at the recent denunciations by National Assembly Deputies and the official media of a U.S. incursion Regional Issues: Honduras, OAS, DCA, Brazil

[9](#). (C) Honduras: Arias expressed his conviction that the coup in Honduras could have been reversed, and could still be resolved, if the U.S. s

[10](#). (C) OAS: With regard to the future tenure of OAS Secretary General Jose Miguel Insulza, Arias said the GBRV would respect the regular term

[11](#). (C) Brazil: Arias said PT candidate Dilma Rousseff still had a chance, especially given President Lula da Silva's popularity.

[12](#). (C) DCA: Arias expressed concern about the "U.S. bases" in Colombia, which he alleged could be used to launch military actions in the regi Arias Expresses Disappointment in the Obama Administration

[13](#). (C) Arias said he thought the Obama Administration had begun with a more "humane," "respectful," and "understanding" approach, but that th The Cedenos Case

[14](#). (C) The DCM noted that Chavez' call for the imprisonment of the judge who ordered the release of banker Eligio Cedenos (reftel) surprised e Comment

[15](#). (C) Arias' decision to meet with the Ambassador was a pleasant surprise and appears to be directly related to the Ambassador's upcoming cc

[16](#). (C) While Arias clearly expressed his interest in improving bilateral contacts, Arias did not appear to be authorized to make any commitme

[17](#). (C) On departing the meeting Arias' assistant Leong evinced relief to the Polcouns that at long last a substantive bilateral meeting had b DUDDY